2

THE GUIDING LIGHT

Family in Islam

A Collection of Quranic Verses and Sayings from the 14 Masumin

SUGGESTED AGES 8+

KISA KIDS PUBLICATIONS

GUIDED BY MOULANA NABI R. MIR (ABIDI)

Disclaimer: Religious texts have ***not*** been translated verbatim so as to meet the developmental and comprehension needs of children.

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Dedication

This book is dedicated to the beloved Imām of our time (ʿaj).
May Allah (swt) hasten his reappearance and help us to become his true companions.

Acknowledgments

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ): On the Day of Resurrection, the ink of the scholars will be weighed up against the blood of the martyrs, and the ink of the scholars will be heavier than the blood of the martyrs.
Nahj al-Faṣāḥah, Saying #3222.

True reward lies with Allah (swt), but we would like to sincerely thank Brother Aliakbar Shaheidari and Sisters Sabika Mithani, Liliana Villalvazo, Zahra Sabur, Noor Kraus, Fatima Hussain, Sumaiya Mithani, Fizza Moalem, Sajeda Merchant, Shahista Asgaraly, Sarah Assaf, Fatemeh Eslami, Israa Safieddine, Abeda Khimji, Zehra Abbas, Elham Shaheidari, and Rumina Hashmani. We would especially like to thank Nashr Kumeh Publications for their artwork and contributions.

May Allah (swt) bless them in this world and the next.

Marḥūmīn Dedication

For our daughter Shireen Ahsan, who loved the Ahl al-Bayt, and was loved by all around her,
please recite a Sūrah al-Fātiḥah.

Preface

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ):
Nurture and raise your children in the best way. Raise them with the love of the Prophets and the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa).

Literature is an influential form of media that often shapes the thoughts and views of an entire generation. Therefore, in order to establish an Islamic foundation for the future generations, there is a dire need for compelling Islamic literature. Over the past several years, this need has become increasingly prevalent throughout Islamic centers and schools everywhere. Due to the growing dissonance between parents, children, society, and the teachings of Islam and the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa), this need has become even more pressing. Al-Kisa Foundation, along with its subsidiary, Kisa Kids Publications, was conceived in an effort to help bridge this gap with the guidance of ʿulamāʾ and the help of educators. We would like to make this a communal effort and platform. Therefore, we sincerely welcome constructive feedback and help in any capacity.

The goal of *The Guiding Light* series is to help children learn that Islam is a holistic religion that shows the best way to lead our lives in all different areas!

With Duʿās,
Nabi R. Mir (Abidi)

About the Board ʿĀlim

Moulana Nabi R. Mir (Abidi) is a scholar, an educator, a father, and an enthusiast for creating educational infrastructure and Islamic resources for the benefit of the global community. Always wanting to think 'outside of the box' by supporting the creation of innovative materials to engage young readers to pick up Islamic books, interact with Qurʾānic games, learn from the Steps to Perfection Curriculum, and begin their life-long journey of holistic education.

Being a dedicated student and graduate of *Darse Khārij* from the *Ḥawzah* (the Highest Level of Islamic Studies in the Seminary), Moulana Abidi knows the value of Islamic education. Also, having grown up in India, and now residing in the United States, he has had the honor of traveling to various communities and meeting many community leaders. He values the importance of collaboration and working together to optimize potentials, and to create open source platforms so that information and resources are available and accessible to everyone around the world.

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You, dear reader, are now part of the Al-Kisa family.
Share the word, and join the mission.

2

Family in Islam

A Collection of Qur'ānic Verses and Sayings from the 14 Maśūmīn

Islam places great emphasis on the importance of family. A prospering society is made up of healthy families, which are the essence of a society. The ideal Islamic family is one with a warm, nurturing atmosphere whose positive effects are manifest in everyone, especially the children. In fact, the beneficial effects of a positive family environment transcend beyond the household, and its blessings are palpable within the society at large.

LESSON 1

Be Kind to Your Parents

وَ بِالْوَالِدَينِ إِحْسَانًا

And be good and kind to your parents.

Sūrah al-Baqarah, Verse 83

There was once a man who had just become a Muslim! Because he was new to Islam, he wanted to make sure that he was living his life in a way where Allah would be happy with him. He was the only one in his family who had become a Muslim, so he wondered, *If I am a Muslim and my parents are not Muslim, should I stay away from them? Should I refuse to help them?*

He decided to seek an answer for his question from the wisest person of his time: Imām aṣ-Ṣādiq (ʿa). After exchanging *salāms*, he asked the Imām (ʿa), "My dear mother is very old and she has lost her sight. Can I help her and my father even though they are not Muslim? How should I treat them?"

"Of course you should help them!" replied the Imām (ʿa). "In fact, you should be more kind and loving than ever before, especially to your mother since she has lost her sight."

After hearing this, the man felt relieved. He thanked the Imām (ʿa) and made his way back home. As soon as he saw his mother, he began to treat her better than ever before. He cooked for her, fed her, washed her clothes, and kept the house nice and tidy. He showed both of his parents a lot of love and care.

His mother was surprised. She was not used to her son being this kind to her. One day, she asked, "My dear son, when you used to follow our religion, you never treated me this well. Now that you follow Islam, why do you show me so much more love?"

Her son smiled and replied, "My Imām taught me that Muslims should have good behavior and be especially kind and loving toward their parents."

She paused for a moment and asked, "Can I please meet your Imām?"

"Of course! I would love to introduce you to him!" he answered.

The next day, he took his mother to visit the Imām (ʿa). They had a conversation about some of the beautiful teachings of Islam, and she immediately fell in love with it. When she returned home, she couldn't stop thinking about what she had learned. She was most surprised by how Islam was so different to the rumors she had heard. She regretted having jumped to conclusions in the past. "Next time I hear about something, I'll be sure to research more," she promised herself. Day by day, she began to learn more and reflect more until one day, she, too, decided to become Muslim!

Uṣūl al-Kāfī, Chapter on Parents, Ḥadīth #11

مَنْ أَرْضَى وَالِدَيْهِ فَقَدْ أَرْضَى اللّٰه

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ):

Whoever makes his mother and father happy has indeed made Allah happy.

Kanz al-ʿUmmāl, Vol. 12

LESSON 2

Seek Advice

وَ شَاوِرْهُمْ فِي الْأَمْرِ

And seek advice from others for important matters [in your life].

Sūrah Āl-ʿImrān, Verse 159

One night, a man was fast asleep after a long day of work. In his dream, an angel came to him and said, "You will live half of your life while you are rich and comfortable, and you will live the other half of your life while you are poor and troubled. Which half do you want to live first?"

He thought for a moment but still felt unsure. "I need to ask my wife for advice before making a decision," he told the angel. You see, he and his wife would always consult each other before making important decisions.

The next morning, he told his wife about the dream. "Which one do you think I should choose first?" he asked her. She suggested that he ask Allah for the easy part of life to come first. He agreed and took her advice.

From that day forward, the man and his wife lived a rich and comfortable life for many years, and they would always thank Allah for giving them so many blessings! They even decided to share their wealth with the poor.

As the good times were coming to an end, the same angel came back to his dream and said, "The time to live in comfort is almost over, but since you and your wife were thankful and generous, Allah wants you to live the second half of your life in comfort and wealth also!"

The man woke up and rushed to share the good news with his wife. They were both filled with joy, and would go on to thank Allah and help the poor more than ever before. He turned to his wife and thanked her for giving him such good advice.

Biḥār al-Anwār, Vol. 68, P. 55

لَا نَدِمَ مَنِ اسْتَشَارَ

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ):
There is no regret for the one who asks for advice [from the right people].

Biḥār al-Anwār, Vol. 75, P. 83

LESSON 3

FAMILY SECRETS

لَا تَتَّخِذُوا بِطَانَةً مِّنْ دُونِكُمْ

Do not tell your secrets to just anyone.

Sūrah Āl-ʿImrān, Verse 118

A man was once feeling very worried and stressed about his problems, so he went to Imām aṣ-Ṣādiq (ʿa) to tell him all about them.

The Imām (ʿa) listened carefully and tried to put himself in the man's shoes. He lifted his hands up and prayed, "May Allah remove all of your hardships!" The Imām (ʿa) then comforted the man and gave him enough money to help him fix his problems.

Whenever I need help, the Imām always gives me more than I could imagine, the man thought. *His prayers alone would have been plenty!*

As he was leaving, the Imām (ʿa) gave him a piece of advice: "Be careful not to tell your secrets to just anybody," he said. "When people hear about your problems, they might lose respect for you. Also, not everyone knows how to give good advice."

The man thanked the Imām (ʿa) and decided to be more careful about sharing his problems with others. As he walked away, he thought to himself, *Thank God I have someone like the Imām to turn to for advice!*

Biḥār al-Anwār, Vol. 47, P. 34

إِحْفَظْ لِسَانَكَ تَعِزَّ

Imām Mūsā al-Kāẓim (ʿa):
If you watch what you say, you will have more honor and respect.

Biḥār al-Anwār, Vol. 75, P. 83

LESSON 4

SPEAK NICELY

وَ قُل لِّعِبَادِی یَقُولُوا الَّتِی هِیَ أَحۡسَنُ

Tell My servants to speak in the best way.

Sūrah al-Isrāʾ, Verse 53

There was once a man who loved Imām aṣ-Ṣādiq (ʿa) very much and would visit him quite often.

One night, while the man was having a chat with his mother, the conversation turned into an argument. In anger, he began to raise his voice and say cruel things.

Early the next morning, he went to the masjid for prayer. After he finished praying, he got up to greet the Imām (ʿa). But before he could say anything, the Imām (ʿa) asked, "Why did you speak harshly with your mother last night?"

Surprised that the Imām (ʿa) knew about it, he hung his head in shame. The Imām (ʿa) continued, "Be careful about how you speak to others, especially your mother. She is the one who brought you into this world, fed you when you were hungry, and cradled you in her arms." The Imām (ʿa) then reminded him to always speak nicely to people, especially parents and elders.

The man took this advice seriously. As soon as he reached home, he apologized to his mother, kissed her hand, and asked her for forgiveness.

Biḥār al-Anwār, Vol. 47, P. 72

أَجْمِلُوا فِي الْخِطَابِ تَسْمَعُوا جَمِيلَ الْجَوَابِ

Imām ʿAlī (ʿa):
Speak to others nicely, and you will also hear a nice reply from them.

Ghurar al-Ḥikam, P. 436

LESSON 5

WORK AS A TEAM

وَ تَعَاوَنُوا عَلَى الْبِرِّ وَ التَّقْوَىٰ

And help each other be good and God-conscious.

Sūrah al-Mā'idah, Verse 2

One summer afternoon, the Prophet (ṣ) decided to go on a trip with three of his friends. On the way, they stopped outside town to pray and have lunch. After prayer, they decided to each take a task to prepare lunch.

"I will go get the meat!" one person volunteered.

"I will cook the meat!" another offered.

"Leave it to me to set the tablecloth!" said the third.

"And I will gather the firewood," volunteered the Prophet (ṣ).

All three men said, "O Prophet of Allah! Please sit down and rest. Give us the honor of preparing the food for you!"

The Prophet (ṣ) thanked them for their kindness and said, "I'm sure that you can handle it on your own, but I also want to help. Allah does not like it when a group travels together and someone does not pitch in to help with the work."

He then set out to collect firewood. Within the hour, they were all gathered around the tablecloth enjoying a delicious meal together.

Biḥār al-Anwār, Vol. 5

خَيْرُ النَّاسِ أَنْفَعُهُمْ لِلنَّاس

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ):
The best people are those who are most helpful to others.

Kanz al-ʿUmmāl, Vol.1, P.142

Quiz Yourself!

1. When a new Muslim asked for advice about how to treat his non-Muslim mother, he was told to _____.
   a. find a new place to live
   b. treat her with even more kindness
   c. treat her in a harsh way so that she can learn a lesson

2. According to the Prophet (ṣ), if you ask the right people for advice, you will not be _____.
   a. worried
   b. regretful
   c. angry

3. Imām aṣ-Ṣādiq (ʿa) teaches us that whenever we have a problem and need to ask for help, we should _____.
   a. be sure to tell everyone about our problems — the more the merrier
   b. not ask for help from anyone and always keep our secrets to ourselves
   c. ask for advice from people we trust

4. We should speak kindly to everyone, especially our _____.
   a. parents
   b. teachers
   c. friends

5. According to the Prophet (ṣ), Allah likes it when _____.
   a. one person volunteers to do all of the work
   b. nobody does the work
   c. Muslims work together as a team

6. Name three ways you can respect your parents.

7. Name three people whom you can go to for advice.

Email your answers to QUIZZES@KISAKIDS.ORG, and we will send you a certificate!

Glossary

(ṣ): Peace and blessings be upon Prophet Muḥammad and his family

(swt): All Glory belongs to God, the Glorified and Exalted

(ʿa): Peace and blessings be upon him/her

(ʿaj): May God hasten his reappearance

Aḥādīth: Traditions from the Noble Prophet of Islam

Ahl al-Bayt: Divinely appointed family members of Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ)

al-Fātiḥah: The first *sūrah* that is commonly recited and sent as a gift of prayer for the deceased

Alḥamdulillāh: All praise is for God

Allah: The Arabic term for God, a culmination of all His holy names and titles

Duʿāʾ: Supplication; a deep connection and communication between an individual and God

Imām: A divinely appointed leader, sometimes refers to a spiritual leader

Imām aṣ-Ṣādiq (ʿa): The 6th Imām (divine leader); his name means the truthful

Imām Mūsā al-Kaẓim (ʿa): The 7th Imām (divine leader); his name means the one who swallows his anger

InshāʾAllāh: God-willing

Marḥūmīn: Someone who has passed away

Maʿṣūmīn: Infallibles

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ): The last and final Messenger of God

Qurʾān: The Holy Book of Muslims

Salāms*:* Greeting of peace that Muslims exchange when they meet one another

SubḥānAllāh: All Glory and Praise belongs to God

Sūrah: A chapter of the Qurʿān

ʿUlamāʾ: Scholars

Transliteration Chart

Arabic terms in this book have been transliterated according to the following guidelines*:

ء	a, i, or u (initial form)
ء	ʾ (medial or final form)
ا	a
ب	b
ت	t
ث	th
ج	j
ح	ḥ
خ	kh
د	d
ذ	dh
ر	r
ز	z
س	s
ش	sh
ص	ṣ
ض	ḍ
ط	ṭ
ظ	ẓ
ع	ʿ
غ	gh
ف	f
ق	q
ك	k
ل	l
م	m
ن	n
ه	h
و	w
ي	y

ـَ	a
ـِ	i
ـُ	u
ـّ	double letter
آ / ـَا / ىٰ	ā
ـِي	ī
ـُو	ū

*Please note that due to limitations, the transliteration is not 100% accurate in capturing tajwīd rules.

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